

Docket No. 2185 0589P

REMARKS

Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Applicants note with appreciation that the Examiner took the initiative to contact Applicants' representative on June 11, 2002 in order to reduce the issues. Applicants believe that the attached sheet of drawings is sufficient to address the Examiner's concerns.

During a second telephone conversation on June 13, 2002, the Examiner requested clarification that claim 2 refers to a "second" layer, but does not refer to a "first" layer. Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to line 4 of claim 2, wherein the first layer is taught to be "adjacent to a first layer...".

If the Examiner has any further questions regarding this application, or if the Examiner believes an interview would help advance prosecution, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Garth M. Dahlen, Ph.D. (Reg. 43,875) at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

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If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

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RCS/GMD/gh
2185 0589P
Attachments

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JUN 13 2002

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